

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The non-final Office Action of November 2, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-39, and 42-45 are pending with this paper. Claims 1-44 are rejected. Applicant is canceling claims 6, 9, 40, and 41 without prejudice. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Applicant is adding claim 45, which is supported the specification as originally filed, e.g., Paragraph 30.

Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner has accepted the drawings.

Other Amendments

Applicant is amending claims 7, 10, 12, and 35 to properly reference the numbering of claims. Applicant is also amending claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 29, 30, 34, 39, 43, and 44 to have consecutive identification of the claim elements.

Claim Objections

Claim 29 is objected to because of informality.

Applicant is amending claim 29 to replace “the determining whether” with “determining whether”. Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-17, 20-29, and 32-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by US 6,968,509 (Chang).

Regarding claim 1, Applicant is amending the claim to include the feature of “playing back the user event from the event entry of the file to autonomously reproduce the captured user event.” The amended claim includes features from claim 9 (now canceled). The amendment is also supported by the specification as originally filed, e.g., Paragraph 27. Referencing the

argument presented by the Office Action for rejecting claim 9, the Office Action alleges that (Page 4.):

Chang discloses methods, computers and computer readable media as in claim 8 above and further discloses reproducing/playing back the user event from the event entry of the file (fig. 10, col. 8, lines 14-21).

Chang discloses (Column 8, lines 14-21.):

If the application 126 malfunctions, the user or another who wishes to reproduce the malfunction to debug the application 126 can follow the user-driven events specified in the window 606. The recorded user-driven events of the window 606 may be printed or electronically transferred as a file to a remote location, such as a database that maintains the user-driven events necessary to reproduce bugs for an application 126.

Chang merely discloses creating a log file with the events and requires that a reviewer to manually translate the entries in the log file to actions associated with the application. As shown in fig. 6-10, Chang merely discloses a window (e.g., window 606) containing a listing of user-driven events that a user (who is debugging a malfunction of application 126) can follow. Moreover, Chang is merely suggesting a procedure for debugging an application when the application malfunctions. However, as claimed in claim 1 and supported by the specification, play back of the file is not based on an application malfunctioning. For example, Paragraph 27 discloses a help desk operator (computer 253) assisting the user of computer 251. The help desk operator accesses a stored file from knowledge base 219 to view a proper sequencing of user events.

Claims 2-17, 20-29, and 32-37 ultimately depend from claim 1 and are not anticipated for at least the above reasons. Moreover, claims 4 and 5 include the features of “determining, with a second API, whether a second screen object has been acted upon by the user” and “determining, with a second API, whether the first screen object has been acted upon by the user,” respectively. However, Chang merely discloses a single application program interface IAccessible(). (Column 6, lines 19-29.) Moreover, claim 13 includes the feature of “wherein the text file complies with an Extensible Markup Language (XML) format.” The Office Action alleges that (Page 4):

Chang discloses methods, computers and computer readable media as in claim 7 above and further discloses a text file with a description and format such as Extensible Markup Language (XML) (fig. 6; fig. 2, col. 5, lines 15-30).

Applicant notes that the Extensible Markup Language (XML) supports numerous capabilities (e.g., elements and associated attribute in accordance with a schema as illustrated in Figure 8) not even suggested by Chang. Chang merely discloses a user entering plain text (e.g., text 706 as shown in fig. 8).

Also, Applicant is amending claim 15 to include the feature of “determining a speed associated with the user event, the speed being associated with a duration of the user event,” which is supported by the specification as originally filed, e.g., Paragraph 36. The Office Action alleges that (Page 5.):

Chang discloses methods, computers and computer readable media as in claim 14 above and further discloses recording the user event and determining a speed associated with the user event (fig. 2, col. 5, lines 1-67; fig. 6/Action,View).

Chang merely discloses the determination of a time spacing between user entries. For example, Chang discloses (Column 5, lines 38-52. Emphasis added.):

When query operation 212 detects that the **spacing** is less than the pre-defined interval, then entry operation 216 determines which focus, either from the last entry or a preceding entry in the stack, has a lesser NULL setting or other indicative criteria specific to the application that signals which is most likely the correct focus. Once the entry with the correct focus is determined, record operation 218 records the user-driven event as a mouse click on that focus. When query operation 212 detects that the **spacing** is greater than or equal to the pre-defined interval, then record operation 214 records the user-driven event as a mouse click on the focus of the last entry in the stack. As discussed above, recording the user-driven event may involve displaying text describing the user-driven event on a display or printout and/or saving the description to an electronic file. After recording a mouse click event at record operation 214 or 218, a new stack is delineated at stack operation 220 and operational flow returns to signal operation 202.

Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1-17, 20-29, and 32-37.

Regarding independent claim 38, Applicant is amending the claim to include the similar feature of “a play back module that plays back the user event from the event entry of the file to

autonomously reproduce the user event.” The amendment is supported by the specification as originally filed, e.g., Paragraph 27. As discussed above in regard to claim 1, Chang fails to even suggest this feature. Moreover, claim 39 depends from claim 38. Applicant is canceling claims 40-41 without prejudice. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 38-39.

Applicant is amending independent claim 42 to include the similar feature of “playing back the user event from the event entry of the text file, wherein the user event is autonomously reproduced on an output device.” Claims 43-44 depend from claim 42. Thus, Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 42-44.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 18-19 and 30-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chang in view of US 6,,662,226 (Wang).

Claims 18-19 and 30-31 ultimately depend from claim 1. Moreover, Wang fails to remedy the deficiencies of Chang. Thus, claims 18-19 and 30-31 are patentable for at least the above reasons. Moreover, claim 30 includes the feature of “in response to (i), **drilling down through a hierarchy** to find a matching screen object in accordance with at least one attribute of the event entry.” (Emphasis added.) The Office Action alleges (Page 12.):

Chang does not explicitly disclose matching an attribute with the user-driven event during replay time. Wang discloses a system and method that typically permit a user/administrator to retrieve and replay the recorded screen activities. The request may include a query of the user’s ID and the archived files are played back namely in a specified order (fig. 6B, col. 9, lines 18-47).

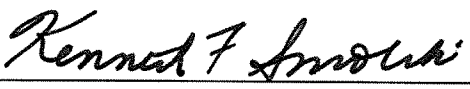
Wang merely discloses assigning a transaction identification (step 644 as shown in fig. 2) that merely identifies the file. (Column 9, lines 24-33.) However, Wang fails to even suggest a hierarchical relationship among files. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 18-19 and 30-31.

All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: April 24, 2007

By: 
Kenneth F. Smolik
Registration No. 44,344
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
10 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000
Chicago, IL 60606-7407
Telephone: 312-463-5419
Facsimile: 312-463-5001